

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-25 are pending in the present application and Claims 1-3, 6-9, 12, 13, 15, 16, and 18-25 are amended. Support for the amendments is found at least in the originally filed claims and in the originally filed specification at page 23, line 9 to page 24, line 14 and page 30, line 8, to page 31, line 4. Thus, no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, the specification was objected to for informalities; Claims 3, 9, and 13 were objected to for informalities; Claims 1-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for clarification regarding “mixedly recorded”; Claims 2-5, 8-11, 21, 22, 24, and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, requiring clarification for “data decodable with the first error correction code” and/or “data decodable with the second error correction code”; and Claims 1-25 were indicated as allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter.

With respect to the objection to the specification, the specification has been amended to recite “PA2” instead of “P2”. Accordingly, the objection is believed to have been overcome. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the objection to the specification be withdrawn.

With respect to the objection to Claims 3 and 9, Claims 3 and 9 have been amended to remove the objected to language. Accordingly, the objection to Claims 3 and 9 is believed to have been overcome. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the objection to Claims 3 and 9 be withdrawn.

With respect to the objection to Claim 13, Claim 13 has been amended to remove the objected to language. Accordingly, the objection to Claim 13 is believed to have been

overcome. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the objection to Claim 13 be withdrawn.

With respect to the rejection of Claims 1-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, independent Claims 1, 7, 13, 20, and 23 have been amended to describe that data encoded with first and second error correction codes is recorded in the second area. The outstanding Office Action notes confusion as to whether support for the previous language was found at at page 3. Applicants note that page 3 describes routine interleaving which is performed as part of ECC coding. Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the originally filed specification at page 30, line 8, to page 31, line 4 which supports the old language of "mixedly recorded." The language has been changed to assist the Examiner's understanding and this change is not related to patentability. Accordingly, the rejection to Claims 1-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, with regard to "mixedly recorded" is believed to have been overcome. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of Claims 1-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

With regard to the rejection of Claims 2-5, 8-11, 21, 22, 24, and 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, independent Claims 1, 7, 13, 20, and 23 have been amended to identify recording to locations where appropriate to assist the Examiner. Accordingly, the rejection to Claims 2-5, 8-11, 21, 22, 24, and 25 is believed to have been overcome. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of Claims 2-5, 8-11, 21, 22, 24, and 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

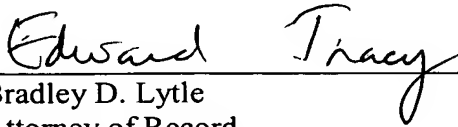
Consequently, in view of the foregoing discussion and present Amendment, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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